(b) whether it is also a fact that the price of textiles has gone up by not more than 6 per cent during this period; and

(c) if so, what specified steps Government propose to take to redress the hardship of handloom weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Even though the price of yarn has increased during the past three years, there has been no shortage of yarn. Production of cloth in the handloom sector has also not fallen despite increase in yarn price as is evident from the following figures:

Year	production in Million Metres	percentage increase yearly production
1985-86 . . .	3692	5.1
1986-87 . . .	3884	5.2
1987-88 . . .	3948	1.6

Government have taken the following steps to redress the hardship of handloom weavers caused by increase in yarn prices:

(i) Export of staple cotton has been suspended.

(ii) It has also been decided to permit import of cotton against export of cotton yarn/cotton fabric and made-up under the Advance Licence Scheme.

(iii) Export of hank yarn upto 60s counts has been suspended.

(iv) It has been decided to import one lakh bale to cotton, duty free, for production of hank yarn for supply to the handloom sector. The price advantage accruing out of the duty free import of cotton will be passed on to the handloom sector.

(v) The rate of subsidy on Janata Cloth has been increased from Rs. 2/- per square metre to Rs. 2.75 per square metre with effect from 1-3-1988.

Failure of the Scheme for self-employment to Educated Unemployed

3513. DR. RATANAKAR PANDEY:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the scheme to provide self-employment to the educated unemployed youth by way of sanctioning bank loans has failed; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as against the projected coverage of 11.25 lakhs cases under the Self-employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) during 1983-84 to 1987-88, loans have been sanctioned in 10.10 lakhs cases amounting to Rs. 1,938.90 crores. The evaluation studies carried out by RBI and public sector banks with the assistance of reputed institutes has also revealed that majority of beneficiaries under the Scheme were earlier unemployed have set up their own ventures. The Scheme has, therefore, by and large been able to achieve its objectives.

External Debt Position of India

3514. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank 88 report shows external debt position of India and other developing countries; if so, what is the comparative position of India with respect to other developing countries in this respect; and

(b) what was external debt position of India in 86 compared to that of China, Pakistan, Sudan and Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) According to the statistical information contained in the World Development Report 1988, published by the World Bank, the debt-service as a percentage of Gross National product for developing economies was 4.4 per cent. For the same year, India's debt-service as a proportion of GNP in 1.2 per cent. The proportions for China, Pakistan, Sudan and Bangladesh of debt-service as a percentage of GNP in 1986 is as follows:

Bangladesh	1.8%
China	0.9%
Sudan	0.8%
Pakistan	3.2%

These figures are based on World Bank estimates of external public debt outstanding and disbursed.

Evasion of excise duty by M|s Swatantra Bharat Mills

3515. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M|s. Swatantra Bharat Mills, Delhi has been served a notice for evading excise duty totalling Rs. 1.29 crores; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A show cause notice has been issued to M|s. Swatantra Bharat Mills on 25th March, 1988. It is alleged that the said Mill has evaded duty to the tune of Rs. 1.29 crores by clearing Terry Towels without payment of duty in the guise of Terry Towelling Fabrics and also by not paying duty on the yarn and the fabrics used in the manufacture of exported Terry Towels.

Ban on Recruitment in Banks

3516. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ban imposed on the recruitment of personnel in public sector banks since 1984 still exists;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that because of this ban most of the banks are under-staffed; and

(c) whether Government propose to liberalise the ban and allow the banks to recruit personnel essentially needed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Lock-out Declared by Nuddea Mills Company

3517. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of Nuddea Mills Company belonging to the HMP group has declared a lock-out at its jute unit at Naihati employing over 4000 workers;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken to look into the causes and see that the lockout is lifted?